

REMARKS

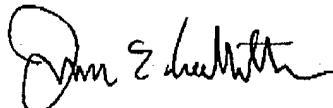
Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

All claims have been allowed except claim 13. Claim 13 is hereby canceled. The Applicants intend to file a divisional application directed to claim 13.

All outstanding issues having been resolved, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may be best resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to kindly telephone the undersigned at the local, Washington D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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James E. Ledbetter  
Registration No. 28,732

Date: October 22, 2004

JEL/att

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